

Barron County Department Updates

DECEMBER 2013

Office on Aging / Aging & Disability Resource Center

Charlene Oftedahl, Director

We are experiencing lots of staff changes, but the transitions are going smoothly. Everyone has stepped up to the plate to make sure our customers continue to receive good service. I am retiring in February after 40+ years with Barron County. The staff and I are so very pleased that Leslie Fijalkiewicz has been hired as the new director. She has been the manager of the Elderly Nutrition Program for the past 18 years, and 3 years ago took on the added responsibility of supervising our transportation program. Gloria Vaughn, our Dementia/Family Caregiver Specialist and supervisor of Daybreak adult day care,

retires on January 3rd with over 15 years of service. Gloria's retirement open house will be Thursday, January 9th from 2:30 to 4 pm in Room 110. My retirement open house is planned for Thursday, February 13, same time and place. Leanne Beloate is our new Elder Benefit Specialist, replacing Kim Gogan who accepted our Information & Assistance Specialist position vacated by Heidi Rubenzer who joined CCCW. CCCW replaces Northern Bridges on January 1 as the managed care organization providing Family Care in our area.

Volunteers are needed to facilitate Living Well workshops.

Four days of regional training will be held in Barron during February. To be eligible, volunteers must have an on-going health condition such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, COPD, or take care of a family member with a chronic condition. Volunteers receive a small stipend and expenses are reimbursed. Contact Trisha Bailkey in our ADRC if you are interested. 715-537-6225.

Check out our new 2014 Resource Directories at www.adrcconnections.org - click at upper left corner of the home page.

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County Clerk

DeeAnn Cook, County Clerk

There were special elections on November 5, 2013 for both the Cameron and Rice Lake School Districts and both referenda's passed. Since there was nothing on the ballot that was county level or above, the schools were required to pay all costs of the election which included all legal notices, ballots, programming of equipment, supplies, poll workers, etc. We still had

to set the election up in SVRS for all relying municipalities and print poll lists for them but that was the extent of our involvement. The decision was made to combine some of the polling places so we did have to create new polling place assignment plans in some of the municipalities. We also let the municipalities involved know that they could call us at any time during the day so we could help verify that any new voter resided within the boundaries of the

school district.

At the 2014 Spring Election, all County Board Supervisor seats will be on the ballot. Any incumbent not seeking re-election must file a Notification of Non-candidacy by December 27, 2013 at 5PM. In addition, Circuit Court Judge for Branch 2 and Branch 3 in Barron County are also up for election. There are no statewide races up for election this spring and thus far, there is

no statewide referendum question filed. There will be some races at the municipal level. Judicial candidates file candidacy with the Government Accountability board, County Supervisor candidates file with the County Clerk and Municipal level candidates either file with their Municipal Clerk or obtain ballot status through a caucus procedure.

Finance Department

Jodi Busch
Lead Fiscal Coordinator

November proved to be a very busy month in the Finance Department. The 2014 Budget was passed by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, November 4th with a 2.28% increase in the County Levy, bringing the total to \$18,152,552. This percentage increase compares to the percentage increase in Net New Construction. Apportionment worksheets were completed and distributed to the Municipal Clerks before the November 15th deadline and the Levy Limit worksheets were filed with the Department of Revenue. A copy of the approved budget can be

viewed on the County website at <http://www.barroncountywi.gov/>.

Now that the budget is completed, our focus turns to the end of the year. CliftonLarsonAllen will be onsite December 2-5 to start their preliminary fieldwork for the 2013 audit. By spending a few days here in December, they can take care of some of the more tedious tasks which will help streamline the audit process when they come again in the spring. In addition to the audit, we will be starting to tie up the loose ends for 2013, as well as setting up accounts and budgets for 2014.

December also brings onsite software training for the Finance Department. Not long ago, we upgraded our financial software to a web-based version, and also implemented an Intelligence Program report writer. With these upgrades came training, which started in September. Our final training day will be December 12th.

With 2013 rapidly coming to a close, all of us at the Barron County Finance Department wish you the happiest of holiday seasons!



2014 County Board Dates & Times

January 20th	6:00 p.m.
February 17th	6:00 p.m.
March 17th	6:00 p.m.
April 15th	9:00 a.m.
May 19th	7:00 p.m.
June 16th	7:00 p.m.
July 21st	7:00 p.m.
August 18th	7:00 p.m.
September 15th	7:00 p.m.
October 20th	7:00 p.m.
November 3rd	6:00 p.m.
November 10th	9:00 a.m.